

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)

Docket No. 2008-0274

Instituting a Proceeding to Investigate)
Implementing a Decoupling Mechanism)
for Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., and)
Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc., and)
Maui Electric Company, Limited.)

HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION'S

OPENING STATEMENT OF POSITION

AND

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

MARK DUDA
HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION
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PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

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_____)	

HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION'S

OPENING STATEMENT OF POSITION

Hawaii Solar Energy Association (hereafter "HSEA") respectfully offers its Opening Statement of Position (OSOP) regarding the implementation a decoupling mechanism for the Hawaiian Electric Company. Inc., Maui Electric Company Ltd. and the Hawaii Electric Light Company, Ltd. (hereafter "the HECO Companies").

GENERAL POSITIONS

(1) HSEA supports the implementation of a decoupling mechanism for the HECO Companies that effectively insulates the utilities' earnings from fluctuations in sales volumes in years between rate cases. Effective decoupling would provide several benefits. Of primary importance to HSEA in this docket, a decoupling mechanism would decrease existing disincentives for the utilities to embrace programs (by the utilities or other parties)

that reduce energy consumption including energy efficiency programs and customer sited renewable generation.

(2) HSEA does not take a position at this time regarding the specific attributes of the RAM mechanism proposed by HECO.

(3) HSEA generally supports the customer protection features proposed by the Consumer Advocate but not have a position on specific features at this time.

SPECIFIC PROPOSALS BY HSEA

HSEA does not offers a specific proposals in its OSOP. HSEA may offer further specific proposals in the course of the docket.

CONCLUSION

HSEA looks forward to working with the parties to produce a decoupling mechanism and RAM that is fair to the utility, ratepayers, and renewable energy generators.

Dated: March 30, 2009; Honolulu, Hawaii

Signed:


Mark Duda

President, Hawaii Solar Energy Association

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing HAWAII SOALR ENERGY ASSOCAITION OPENING STATEMENT OF POSITION AND RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS TO THE PARTIES TRANSMITTED BY THE COMMISSION ON MARCH 5, 2009 upon the following entities, by hand delivery or by electronic transmission as noted:

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Dated:

March 30, 2009; Honolulu, Hawaii

Signed:


Mark Duda

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